

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 16907 291401Z

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----130164 291405Z /42

O 291210Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7629

S E C R E T NEW DELHI 16907

NODIS

WHITE HOUSE EYES ONLY FOR BRZEZINSKI

REF: STATE 284067

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S TRIP: SCHEDULE

1. I DISCUSSED PROPOSED SCHEDULE AND RELATED QUESTIONS CONVEYED IN REFTEL WITH FOREIGN SECRETARY THIS MORNING AND ALSO OVER THE PHONE WITH PRIME MINISTER. DCM MET THIS AFTERNOON WITH CHIEF OF PROTOCOL AND OTHER MEA OFFICIALS.

2. GOI IS PLEASED WITH DATES. PRIME MINISTER TOLD ME THAT HE WILL GLADLY REARRANGE HIS AHMEDABAD COMMITMENT ON JANUARY 3.

3. INDIANS LIKE THE NEW SCHEDULE, WITH TWO EXCEPTIONS. FIRST, THEY WOULD PREFER TO SEE WREATH-LAYING TAKE PLACE EARLIER IN THE SCHEDULE, AS IS CUSTOMARY ON STATE VISITS. SECOND, THEY WERE DISTINCTLY PUT OFF BY THE IDEA OF HAVING THE JOINT DECLARATIONSIGNED IN AN AREA ADJACENT TO THE GANDHI MEMORIAL. WE SHARE THEIR VIEW THAT SUCH A LOCALE AND TIMING FOR THE JOINT DECLARATION WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE AND EMBARRASSING.

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INDIAN COUNTER PROPOSAL IS TO HAVE JOINT DECLARATION SIGNING IN ASHOKA HALL AT RASTRAPATI BHAVAN ON MORNING OF LAST DAY.

4. GOI ACCEPTS IDEA OF VILLAGE VISIT IN PRINCIPLE AND MAY SUGGEST SOME ALTERNATIVE VILLAGES. IN MEANTIME WE ARE WORKING UP REQUESTED PHOTOS

AND INFORMATION ON VILLAGE WE HAVE ALREADY HIT UPON
AS A POSSIBILITY.

5. GOI AS YET HAS NO FIRM PREFERENCE ON SITE FOR
CIVIC RECEPTION. THEY HAVE PROMISED TO ADVISE US
SOONEST. THEIR PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE OF A SUNDAY
AFTERNOON CROWD IS 300-700,000 AT EITHER SITE.

6. MEA HAS NOT YET COMPLETED ARRANGEMENTS WITH
PARLIAMENTARY LEADERS FOR USE OF CENTRAL
HALL OF PARLIAMENT FOR PRESIDENT'S SPEECH, BUT PROMISES
EARLY REPLY. EMBASSY WILL HAVE A VOICE IN DRAWING
UP GUEST LIST.

7. INDIANS WILL HAVE SOME SUGGESTIONS ON SCHEDULING,
PARTICULARLY WITH RESPECT TO TIME OF WREATH-LAYING.

8. IF ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISIT IS MADE DURING
PRESIDENT'S PRESS CONFERENCE MORNING NOVEMBER 30,
GOI WOULD LIKE TO MAKE SIMILAR RELEASE BY 2000 HOURS
LOCAL TIME NOVEMBER 30 IN ORDER TO MAKE NEXT
MORNING PAPERS.

9. COMMENT: POSTPONEMENT HAS HAD WELCOME RESULT
OF PRODUCING A BETTER SCHEDULE, MORE ACCOMMODATIVE
OF INDIAN WISHES AND MORE SUITED TO MEETING

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PURPOSES OF PRESIDENT'S TRIP.
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Message Attributes

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